

REMARKS

35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Each of independent claims 1, 11, 22 and 23 have been amended to clarify the nature of the term "automatic" as employed therein wherein the last clause of each of said claims has been changed to generally read as *"arranging the web-based telephony application to access the URI and, at the specified future time specified in the URI, to instruct a telephony apparatus to automatically establish a telephone call over the communications network between the source and the destination specified in the URI such that a user of the telephony apparatus is not required to operate the telephony apparatus at said future specified time to establish the telephone call"* (emphasis added to highlight change). Basis for this change is found at page 11, line 12 of the specification which confirms that a conference participant is not required to dial into a conference planned for the future specified time. One skilled in the art would readily understand this to mean that the telephone call is automatically established by the telephony apparatus such that a user is not required to operate the telephony apparatus at the future specified time to establish the call, i.e. the call is established automatically by the telephony apparatus without manual intervention at the future specified time.

Applicant maintains as entirely pertinent the submissions made in previous responses dealing with the Examiner's rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) based on the combination of Summers et al (US6976734) and Linden et al (US6549773) and requests that these be reconsidered as part of this response. As previously pointed out, it is clear from the description in Summers with respect to figure 7 of the process occurring once the conference start time (future specified time) has arrived that manual intervention is required to establish the conference call. There are two methods for a caller to join the conference call. One is a dial-in method requiring the caller to enter the conference telephone number or IP address, i.e. manually intervene, and to then enter other information to authenticate the caller, column 11, line 37 to column 12, line 9. The other method of joining comprises a 'dial-out' method whereby a conference moderator enters the telephone number or IP address of a user to be called, column 12, lines 26 to 43. In this case, the moderator must first dial in, i.e. manually intervene, to the conference call in the


manner of the dial-in method described above before being able to use the dial-out method to join other participants to the conference call. Therefore, it is beyond any doubt that in making a call (whether telephony or IP connection) to 'dial-in' or 'dial out' by way of joining the conference call requires manual entry of information. This is true even for the dial-out method where the moderator must first dial in. Consequently, Summers does not disclose the step of instructing a telephony apparatus to automatically establish a telephone call over the communications network between the source and the destination specified in the URI such that a user of the telephony apparatus is not required to operate the telephony apparatus at said future specified time to establish the telephone call. This feature is not disclosed or suggested by any of the other references of record.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance, and such action is solicited.

An appropriate Petition for Extension of Time is submitted herewith as part of the RCE.

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Respectfully submitted,


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